

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Serving

Our Lady Help of Christians , St. John Nepomucene & Our Lady of Libera Churches
569-65th Street, West New York, New Jersey 07093

Tel. 201-868-9444 ~ web: holyredeemer-wny.org ~ Live Mass Streaming/S. Misa por Internet

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 9:00am ~ 1:00pm (3:00pm ~9:00pm by appointment only)
DESPACHO: Lunes a Viernes 9:00am ~ 1:00pm -- (3:00pm~ 9:00pm solamente por cita)

Fr.. Carlo Fortunio, *PASTOR*
Fr. Melvin X. Oseguera , Parochial Vicar
Fr. Giordano Belanich, weekend assistant
Fr. Angelo Pochetti, *in Residence*
Deacon Jesús Aristy, *Parish Deacon*

Philip Dispenza, Mario Gallo *Parish Trustees*
Edward Mendoza , *Business Manager*
Angie Rotella-Suarez—*Music Minister*

Baptisms: Are held on Saturday or Sunday, needs to register at P. Pio Parish Center, 569 65th St. WNY on **MONDAY between 5.45pm & 6.45pm** two months in advance . Classes the first two Tuesday of each month held in the hall in the lower level of the school

Marriages: The couple has to enroll at least **one year** in advance at the Padre Pio Center, 569 65th St. . **Needs to be enrolled in the Parish for at least 6 months before** And attend Mass in one of the Parish Churches

Bautizos: Hoja de inscripción se encuentran a la entrada de la Iglesia. Necesita registrarse con dos meses de anticipación **Los Lunes entre 5.45pm y 6.45pm**. Clases primero **DOS** martes de cada mes a las 7.00pm salón de debajo de la escuela

Matrimonios: Necesita registrarse con un año de anticipación pasando por el Centro Parroquial P. Pio, 569 65th St, WNY y **ser miembro registrado en la parroquia por no meno que 6 meses y participar en la S. Misa en la Parroquia**

MASS SCHEDULE ~ HORARIO DE MISAS

Our Lady Help of Christians

Monday through Friday 8:00am *English*
Lunes a, Viernes 7:00pm *Español*

Our Lady of Libera, En Español

Lunes, a Viernes 9:00am

St. John Nepomuceno

Monday Through Friday 7:30am *English*
Saturday 8:00am *English*

CONFESSIONS~ CONFESIONES

St. Mary's Fridays~Viernes 5.45pm - 6.45pm
Libera Saturdays ~ Sabados 1.00pm ~2.00pm

VIGIL MASS ON SATURDAY~ MISA DE VIGILIA

4:30pm St. John Nepomuceno, *English*
6:00pm N.S. de la Libera , *Español*
6:00pm St. Mary , *English*
7:00pm St. John, *Español*

SUNDAY MASSES IN ENGLISH

8:00 ~ St. Mary
9:00am~ , St. John ,
10:00am ~Our Lady of Libera
10:15am **CROATIAN** St. John
11:00am English , St. Mary

MISAS DOMINICALES EN ESPAÑOL

12:00pm , Nuestra Señora de la Libera,
9:00am ~12:30pm ~ 6:00pm Sta María
2:00pm St. Juan Nepomuceno

6041 MARCH 2025



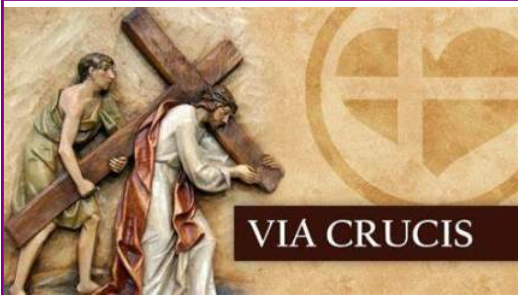
Adoración del S.S. Sacramento
Todos los Jueves de 3.00pm hasta 6.45pm, Sta María
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
every Thursday from 3.00pm till 6.45pm , St. Mary's

SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION
SOLEMNIDAD DE LA ANUNCIACIÓN DEL SEÑOR



- 6.00pm** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Exposición del SS. Sacramento
- 6.15pm** Holy Rosary ~ Santo Rosario
Canto de la Letanías de la SS. Virgen
- 6.45pm** Eucharistic Blessing ~ Bendición Eucarística
- 7.00pm** Sta Misa Solemne en Español

En esta S. Misa están invitada especialmente las Mujeres con sus familias, que están embarazadas o que estén pidiendo un hijo al Señor. Al final de la S. Misa Bendición Particular para toda aquellas.



Todos los Viernes

- 8.00am English, St John's Nepomucene
- 9.00am Espanol , Nuestra Senora de la Libera
- 7.30pm Espanol, Sta Maria

Eucharistic Adoration ~ Adoracion Eucaristica

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| <i>Jueves/Thursdays</i> | 3.00pm ~ 7.00pm | Sta Maria |
| <i>Sunday~ Domingos</i> | 4.00pm 5.30pm | Sta Maria |

Parish Associations ~Asociaciones Parroquiales

- English Choir :** Saturdays 10:00am, O.L. Libera
- English Rosary Society** 1 Sunday, 10am O.L. Libera
- St. Martin de Porres** 2 Domingo, 1:30pm
- Virgen de la Altagracia** 3r Domingo, 1:30pm
- Circulo de Oración** Miércoles 7.00pm N.S. de Libera
Jueves a las 8:00pm, S. María
- Morning Prayer** Advent & Lent 6:00am
- Divina Misericordia** Miercoles, 12.30 N.S. de Libera
Sábados 3:00pm, S. María
- Lazos de Amor Mariano** Martes 7.30 Sta Maria,
Viernes 7.30, Sta Maria
- Coro en Español** Viernes a las 8:00pm
- Gran Fraternidad de S. Martin de Tours,**
Cada día según el ministerio, N. Señora de la Libera
- Neocatechumenal Communities**
Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 8:00pm
- Comunidades Neocatechumenales**
Martes, Miércoles y Sábado 8:00 pm

Post Confirmation Catechesis

Fridays 7.00pm

Counselling : 1st Floor of the School

Consejería: 1 Piso de la Escuela

Call ~ llame (201) 381-1674

Dispensario de comida los martes 9.30am~12.00pm

Jackson & 70th Street

Zumba Classes

Tuesdays @ 6.00pm, St. Mary's Gym

Basketball :

Youth

Thursday and Friday 4.00pm ~ 8.00pm

Young Adults -

Sunday 4.00pm ~ 7.00pm

St. Mary's ~ Sta Maria

Saturday March 22

6.00 *Amaila Chiurazzi-Debbie & Phil Dispenza*

Sunday March 23 **III SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:00 *Oscar Buonafina—Kaefer Garcia*

9:00 *Margarita Rivero—Sergia Minota*

11:00 *Timmy Schroeder—Joan Stalknecht*

12:30 *Cofradía Virgen del Cisne*

María Esther Sarmiento—Su Hija Clara

4.00 **Eucharistic Adoration~ Adoración Eucarística**

6.00 *Santiago Pérez—Esposa y Hijos*

Monday March 24

8.00 *For The Parishioners -Para Los Parroquianos*

7.00 *Almas dl Purgatorio—Jorge y Irma*

Tuesday March 25 **ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

8.00 *Daisy Wilson—sus Hijos*

7.00 *Nino Jesús , por la salud de Ana Bayona*

Wednesday March 26

8.00

7.00 *Orlando Pérez, Abelardo Montesi—Odelta*

Thursday March 27

8.00

7.00 *Minervino Mendoza—esposa y hijos*

Friday March 28

8.00

7.00 *Carlos Gildardo—su Familia*

Gloria Sáenz—Milagros Charris

Saturday March 29

6.00

Sunday March 30 **IV SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:00 *For The Parishioners -Para Los Parroquianos*

9:00 *Francisco Deschamps—Familia Deschamps*

11:00 *James Chieco—Theobald Family*

12:30 *Salud de Rosa Cándida Rodríguez— Su Hija*

Germania Vásquez—Fátima Polanco

Amantino Polanco—Fátima Polanco

Darío Polanco—Fátima Polanco

4.00 **Eucharistic Adoration~ Adoración Eucarística**

6.00 *Faviola Lunar—La Familia*

St. John's ~ S. Juan

Saturday March 22

8.00 *Giacomina Lister—Nikola & Fides Hroncich*

4.30 *Eleanor & Walter Mueller—Rado Family*

7.00 *Diana, Mauricio, Francisca y Luis— Familia Guzmán*

Sunday March 23 **III SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00 *Emanuel & Maria Morin—Gloria Bussanich*

10:15 *Anton Vidovic—Mr & Mrs Maver*

2.00 *Gilberto Gil—Gloria Bussanich & Family*

Monday March 24

7.30 *Stella Simpas—Edenia*

Tuesday March 25 **ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

7.30

Wednesday March 26

7.30 *Ivo Miseta—Maria Pina Miseta*

Thursday March 27

7.30 *Olga Tarabokija—Luciana Picinic*

Friday March 28

7.30

Saturday March 29

8.00

4.30 *Michelina B. Falco- Daughters Luisa & Josephine*

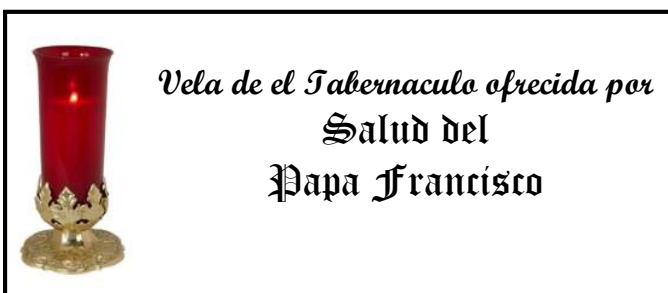
7.00 *María Paz—sus Hijos*

Sunday March 30 **IV SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00 *Jeff Picinic—Radimir Picinic*

10:15 *Bobby Bussanic—Kathy Morin*

2.00 *Almas del Purgatorio—Familia David*



Our Lady of Libera

Your Sacrificial Giving Weekend of March 9-10 2025

Saturday March 22

6.00 Ana Julia Jaque y Feliz Reyes—Familia Reyes

Sunday March 23 III SUNDAY OF LENT

10:00 Sarah Courtney—Theobald Family

12:00 Quique Murillo Segovia—Su Mama

Monday March 24

9.00

Tuesday March 25 ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

9.00

Wednesday March 26

9.00 Leonor Rodríguez—sus Hijos

Thursday March 27

9.00

Friday March 28

9.00 María Gil Cabrera—sus hijas

Saturday March 29

6.00 Aurora Blanco—su Hijo y Familia

Sunday March 30 IV SUNDAY OF LENT

10:00 Patricia Lerer—Theobald Family

12:00 Ramon Almonte—Familia Almonte
Luis Villa—Jackie Cuevas
María y Enrique Cuevas—Jackie Cuevas

4:30pm	<i>St. John's, English</i>	\$	135.00
6:00pm	St. Mary's ,English	\$	282.00
6:00pm	N.S. Libera Español	\$	363.00
7:00pm	St. John's, Español	\$	249.00
8:00am	St. Mary's, English	\$	307.00
9:00am	<i>St. John's, English</i>	\$	106.00
9:00am	St. Mary's, Español	\$	1,423.00
10:00am	O.L. Libera, English	\$	301.00
10:15am	St. John's , Croatian	\$	505.00
11:00am	St. Mary's, English	\$	588.00
12:00noon	O.L. Libera, Español	\$	1,526.00
12:30pm	Sta María, Español	\$	1,888.00
2:00pm	St. John's, Español	\$	434.00
6:00pm	Sta María, Español	\$	690.00

GRAND TOTAL **\$ 8,797.00**

*Thanks for your Generosity !
Gracias por su Generosidad*

Reading for the week of March 9

Monday Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday Is 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Thursday Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 16:19-31

Friday Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11. 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12 Lk 13:1-9



Pray for our Sick

Alfredo Pelaez, Eumelia Quiros, Lesly Gomez, Eenedina Nacelot, Luciana Picinic, Debbie Mundorf, Addison Hope Stallone, Cecilia Sophia, Philip Dispenza, Lorraine Rollman, Esther Blasco,



Sunday 16 of March its food pantry Sunday.

Please Bring some no perishable food and deposit in the yellow containers at the entrance of the Church. *Our food Pantry is open every Tuesday from 9.30 till 12.30pm at 70 and Jackson*

*Por favor lleve comida en lata o no perecedera el **16 DE Marzo** y la deposite en los contenedores amarillos a la entrada de la Iglesia. El Dispensario de comida de la parroquia esta Abierto todos los Martes de 9.30 hasta 12.30 en la Calle Jackson y 70*

Book review The Way of Heaven...

Becklo, Matthew, *The Way of Heaven and Earth*, Word on Fire, Elk Grove Village, Illinois, 2025, pp.339

Have you ever asked yourself, “What is man” or “What are you?” This question has puzzled humans since antiquity and is still a matter of contention that many people don’t bother to think about, especially nowadays characterized by a materialistic superficial culture. But, truth seekers, as any man should be, and Christians in particular need to answer this question to find the right path to real happiness, a common goal of every human being. The present book, written by Matthew Becklo, just edited by Word of Fire Catholic Ministries, can be considered a comprehensive and a good Christian-enlightened attempt to answer this question. Man’s nature is a dilemma: it takes shape in many forms. The book is divided into three parts that delve into three dilemmas.

Part I: The dilemma of life. Part II: The Dilemma of Philosophy. Part III: The Dilemma of Christianity.

As for the first, man, differently from the animals, is both material and spiritual; as for the second, is both rational and endowed with free will; as for the third; he is not meant for this world yet is not yet in Heaven. The contradictions, sins, and errors that we experience in our lives spring from the inability to compose, in some ways, those dilemmas. Either we forget we are body and soul or are incapable of transforming the virtues into facts, or don’t fully allow God’s grace to elevate our human nature to its supernatural dimension. But here comes the Good News. The incarnated Logos, Jesus Christ, whom the author calls the Way, comes to reconcile the divisions caused by our human nature wounded by the original sin and the work of the devil (the name *diabolos* meaning scatterer, the great divider in contrast with God the great gatherer p. 6), as per the Scripture says “To reconcile all things in Him” (Eph. :10 & Col. 1:20) and “ For He is our peace, He who made both one and broke down the dividing wall of enmity”(Eph. 2:14). This book is great reading. It makes difficult philosophical and theological concepts comprehensible to a common reader and especially brings an authentically Christian light to our possible doubts and anxieties, often caused by our contradicting behavior and trials of life.

III Sunday of Lent

If you like to gamble in an ocean side locale, Atlantic City, New Jersey is your place to be. I live not far from there now in retirement. In recent years, gleaming new hotels have risen on the beaches, reflecting the sun by day and glaring with lights at night. But the main attraction in each is the casino. Of course, you can also gamble online. The lottery machine greets you inside your favorite supermarket. What all this says about our society I leave for other minds to tackle. But in a certain way, the holy bible warns us that gambling has no place in a person’s spiritual life. Which is to say that gambling with God, or more particularly your relationship with Him. is a fool’s choice.

We know that Almighty God, figuratively speaking, took a chance when He created humanity. He gave us free will. His creatures could then either make a return of His limitless love or not. God, as it were, gambled on us, our bible history tells us we have often made bad choices. Adam and Eve were weak and unworthy. But even then, God gave them a way back, as He also does with us.

What we call “The Old Testament” is really the story of Israel. God chose them as His favorites, but they let Him down. Even His hand-picked leader, Moses, turned out to be a disappointment. But still He loved them and even made strong covenants with His vacillating people.

Finally, from their midst, He called forth a humble but spotless young girl to be the mother of His only begotten Son. That Son, whose humility, obedience, and unwavering love, offered salvation from sin to those who believed in Him by His sacrificial death. That fidelity would be rewarded when Jesus was raised from the dead on “the Third Day.” Not everyone believed Him. They gambled, as it were, that they knew better. They turned around and walked away. That compelled Jesus to ask His chosen Twelve, with a sadness in His voice; “Will you also walk away?”

So here we are, on a weekend in March, of the year 2025, when we hear once again from Jesus of our need for repentance. Are we going to argue with Him about that? Are we going to continue gambling that our choices are better?

Here is a quote I found from Blaise Pascal, a 17th century philosopher and writer who died in 1662, about gambling on the matter of God’s existence: “Let us weigh the gain and loss in wagering that God exists. Let us estimate these two chances: If you gain, you gain all; if you lose you lose nothing. Wager, then, without hesitation that He is.”

God love you and beware of gambling your future.

Anunciación del Señor

Este 25 de marzo, la Iglesia celebra la Solemnidad de la **Anunciación del Señor**. Es decir, se recuerda de manera solemne que, un día como hoy, se produjo un acontecimiento que cambiaría para siempre la historia de la humanidad. Dios Todopoderoso invitaba a una humilde doncella de Nazaret (Israel) llamada María, a cooperar en su plan salvífico: Ella será invitada por medio del ángel a ser madre del Hijo unigénito de Dios, el Señor Jesús. María, quien había consagrado su virginidad a Dios, responde a la propuesta divina con un valiente y generoso “¡Sí!” (Cfr. Lc 1, 26-38); por lo que será llamada la ‘llena de gracia’. Es necesario recordar que desde el preciso momento en que la Virgen de Nazaret queda encinta por obra y gracia del Espíritu Santo, las puertas del cielo se abren nuevamente y la amistad entre Dios y el hombre, quebrada antaño por el pecado, habrá de ser restablecida. Por su ‘sí’ la Virgen será elevada a la condición de ‘Madre de Dios’. Ella llevará a Jesús en su vientre: primero será abrigo y protección; después, la encargada de educar a Aquel que es salud para el género humano. Tradicionalmente la Anunciación del Señor se celebra el 25 de marzo -nueve meses antes del día de Navidad. Sin embargo, cuando la fecha coincide con la Semana Santa, la celebración se traslada, tal y como sucedió en el 2024.

El porqué de la celebración: ¡El Verbo de Dios se ha hecho carne!

“El Espíritu Santo vendrá sobre ti, y la fuerza del Altísimo te cubrirá con su sombra; por eso el Santo que va a nacer se llamará Hijo de Dios. Ahí tienes a tu pariente Isabel, que, a pesar de su vejez, ha concebido un hijo, y ya está de seis meses la que llamaban estéril, porque para Dios nada hay imposible”. María contestó: ‘Aquí está la esclava del Señor; hágase en mí según tu palabra’. Y la dejó el ángel” (Lc. 1, 35 - 38). Este pasaje forma parte del Evangelio de hoy (Lc 1, 26-38), en el que se recuerda el diálogo del ‘mensajero’ de Dios, Gabriel, con la Virgen. La claridad y sencillez de la respuesta de María denota que sobre ella no hubo imposición, sino libertad. María podría haber rechazado la propuesta venida por boca del ángel y Dios habría respetado su decisión de la misma manera como respeta incondicionalmente la libertad humana. Para alegría y gratitud de todas las generaciones, la “bendita entre las mujeres” aceptó la voluntad de Dios con amor y docilidad. Dios no había puesto vanamente su confianza en María: “Hágase en mí según tu palabra”, contesta, y se produce el más grande de todos los milagros: la Encarnación del Verbo, Segunda Persona de la Santísima Trinidad. Este hecho constituye la auténtica y plena irrupción del Amor infinito en la historia de la humanidad, cuyo significado y repercusiones jamás podrán ser ponderadas del todo, no, por lo menos, hasta el final de los tiempos.

Volviendo al pasaje bíblico que nos ocupa -el encuentro de la Virgen María con el ángel-, es claro también que el porvenir no se le presentaba libre de dificultades a la Madre de Dios. Ya para ese momento, María estaba comprometida con José y era obvio que lo planeado hasta ese momento sería alterado. No resulta difícil pensar que ese plan tendría que ser dejado de lado. Además, principalmente, María era conocedora de las profecías sobre el Mesías, así que era muy consciente de que muchas dificultades e incertidumbres habrían de aparecer. Muy pronto, José, desconcertado por lo que María le revelaría, decide repudiarla en secreto, intentando, en la medida de lo posible, no avergonzarla frente a todos. Ella, por su parte, seguirá aferrada a la Providencia divina. Finalmente, como Dios no abandona a los suyos, envió un ángel que le habla en sueños a José. Dios también esperaba muchísimo de él. Quería que su Hijo estuviera bajo el cuidado paternal de un santo varón. Por esta razón, el santo carpintero recibiría el privilegio de ser el padre de Jesús en la tierra y de formar con María un hogar lleno del amor divino: la Sagrada Familia de Nazaret.

El espíritu de la celebración: un periodo de gestación

La Solemnidad de la Anunciación (habitualmente, 25 de marzo) se celebra nueve meses antes de la Navidad (25 de diciembre), por lo que puede ser considerada una ‘festividad navideña’. Así lo ha dispuesto la tradición de la Iglesia. Existen fuentes que testimonian que la Anunciación del Señor se celebra de esta manera desde el siglo VI en Oriente y desde el siglo VII en Occidente (Roma). Ciertamente se ha producido un cambio en la designación después del Vaticano II. En el *Novus Ordo* se ha preferido la expresión “Anunciación del Señor” en vez de la muy popular “Anunciación de María” con el propósito de evitar posibles ambigüedades en torno significado de la celebración y, al mismo tiempo, subrayar la centralidad de Jesús.

La Anunciación y la cultura de la vida

María tuvo en su vientre a Jesús. Fueron nueve meses de espera albergando a la fuente de la vida dentro de sí. Nueve meses en los que cada instante era una confirmación de que la naturaleza humana posee una grandeza y dignidad incalculables. Abrazando lo que somos, Dios quiso vivir cada etapa de nuestra vida terrena, desde la concepción hasta la muerte. No se encarnó a los tres meses de gestación, ni a los seis, ni nada por el estilo, como podría seguirse de esas discusiones contemporáneas sobre cuándo empieza la vida humana y cuándo un ser humano “realmente” lo es. Dios nos alecciona claramente: se es persona desde la concepción. Y es que la Encarnación se produjo en el instante mismo en el que María concibió del Espíritu Santo: he aquí la razón más elevada por la que la Iglesia defiende a cada ser humano desde el primer instante de su existencia. Por la misma razón, cada 25 de marzo, la Iglesia celebra también “El día del niño por nacer”. ¡Feliz día de la Anunciación! ¡Por María entró la alegría al mundo entero!

Solemnity of the Annunciation of The Lord

As early as the middle of the 6th century in the East, and the 7th century in Rome, there is evidence of this Feast celebrated on 25 March. Since this feast is connected with the Lord Jesus and to His entry into history, the revised liturgical calendar gave this feast the title of the “Annunciation of the Lord”, over the more popular Annunciation of Mary. The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord is a Christmas feast even though it is not celebrated during the Christmas Season. Nine months before we celebrate the Lord’s birth, we celebrate His incarnation in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, “Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.” But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end.” But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?” And the angel said to her in reply, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.” Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her. (Lk. 1:26-39)

God enters through the back door

The Annunciation is the Feast celebrating the Lord’s incarnation in Mary’s womb, initiating a new history. It is interesting to notice that God does not send the angel to the Temple in Jerusalem, but to Galilee, a despised region, considered a haven for unbelieving pagans. Nazareth is a city that is never mentioned in the Old Testament.

Mary is troubled

On hearing the Angel’s message, Mary reflects, she enters into dialogue with herself and with the angel, asking what his message meant and how it would happen. Mary does not allow herself to be overcome by her emotions. She appears as a courageous woman, who remains in control of herself even though she is faced with something unheard of. In the end, she evaluates and makes a decision in God’s light.

The action of the Holy Spirit

It is the Spirit who clothes Mary, making her fit for her mission. He does it here and He will do it again in the Upper Room. Mary is the woman clothed with the Spirit, thanks to whom and in whom everything becomes possible.

Mary’s Yes

Mary’s “Let it be done to me” transforms the humble house of “her” being into God’s House, becoming a Tabernacle of the Most High Jesus. All it took was her “Let it be done to me”, a sign of her willingness, knowing she could trust in the action of the Holy Spirit. And God entered into history, accepting to “make” history in the lives of those who have said and who would say over and over again, “Let it be done to me”.

Mary’s characteristics

Mary’s first characteristic is her faith. She believes and entrusts herself to God, certain that nothing is impossible for Him. God is not afraid of our moments of confusion, of reflection, of trying to understand. God does not force our freedom, but teaches us how to be free so that each one of us can say our own “Let it be done to me”.

The second characteristic is that she accepted God’s time and pace—His time requires our time, it requires that we live more profoundly. God asks for our “yes”, but He also asks that we assume go at His “pace” and “time” which is not simply the ticking of the clock. God’s time is the right time, the fullness of time, the opportune moment, the moment of grace.

Prayer

Today is disclosed the mystery before the ages; and the Son of God shall become the Son of Man, that by his adoption of the lowest he may grant us the highest.

Of old Adam failed to become a God as he desired, so God became Man that Adam might become as God.

Wherefore, let creation rejoice, and nature exchange greetings, for the archangel did stand reverently before the Virgin and offered her joy instead of sorrow. Wherefore, O our God, who by thy compassion became man, glory be to thee.

From the Byzantine Matins for the Feast of the Annunciation

VAINIERI FUNERAL HOME



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